

NO.
20

PEP COMICS

ACTION
DETECTIVE
ADVENTURE

10¢

OCT.



LAWBREAKERS!!! the
noose is your warning
—the gallows is your
goal; you can't escape
THE HANGMAN



WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM

USE THIS ENTIRE COUPON!!!

JUST PRINT PLAINLY ON THIS COUPON, YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AGE AND SEND IT TO ME WITH 10¢ TO COVER COST OF MAILING AND HANDLING



Joe Higgins
Room 315
60 Hudson St.
New York City

DEAR JOE,
PLEASE ENROLL ME AS A MEMBER OF THE **SHIELD G-MAN CLUB**. I AM ENCLOSED THIS COUPON TOGETHER WITH TEN CENTS TO COVER THE COSTS OF HANDLING AND MAILING MY BADGE AND IDENTIFICATION CARD.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
AGE _____

EXACT COPY OF BADGE
IN THREE COLORS
RED-WHITE-BLUE

CUT ON THIS LINE

BULLETIN #4

I want to thank the thousands who have written me telling how much they liked the picture which appears on the back cover of August PEP, September ZIP, TOP NOTCH and BLUE RIBBON COMICS. I hope all my friends have framed it and have it hanging up in their clubrooms. My personal thanks to Malcolm Forsyth of Ruston, La., who is our twenty thousandth member, who writes he has started a club called "The Night Riders of America", which is to be a subsidiary of the SHIELD G-MAN CLUB. Isn't that swell? Claudius Mendell of 840 Emerson, Saginaw, Mich., writes he has an idea for a code, called the Shield G-Man Code-o-Graph. He prepared and sent me for examination one of these code-o-graphs. Now fellows, I wanted to discuss a secret code in this issue, but frankly, haven't received enough suggestions from you. Get on your thinking caps and send me your ideas for a SHIELD G-MAN Code, which I will compare with Claudius' suggestion. Which one of you would like to have the distinction of being the originator of the secret code PEP COMICS will select for its SHIELD G-MAN CLUB. I'll be waiting for your many letters.

Now Cecil Griffith of San Ysidro, Calif., writes a very interesting letter. Cecil's father used to be with the Border Patrol and what do you think happened to Cecil? One day while looking through his binoculars, Cecil spotted two suspicious looking characters. He immediately notified the authorities who apprehended these men who turned out to be smugglers. Congratulations Cecil. I hope all of our members will hold foremost in their minds the maintenance of law and order, and if any of you have had similar experiences, write me and I'll mention it on the Club page. Dusty and myself want to feel that our Club is helping to build fine upright American youths.

Well so long for now and see if you can't snow me under with all these suggestions of our new code.

Joe Higgins

THE ONE AND ONLY

SHIELD

WITH **DUSTY**
THE BOY DETECTIVE



AS DUSK LAYS A HEAVY HAND OVER THE CITY, A GRIM TABLEAU IS ENACTED IN AN APARTMENT.....MURDER AND THAT A KIDNAPPING, AND THAT SHIELD AND DUSTY, ARE BOY DETECTIVE, ARE SOON TO BE BROUGHT FACE TO FACE WITH THEIR MOST FORMIDABLE FOE, DOCTOR WANG.

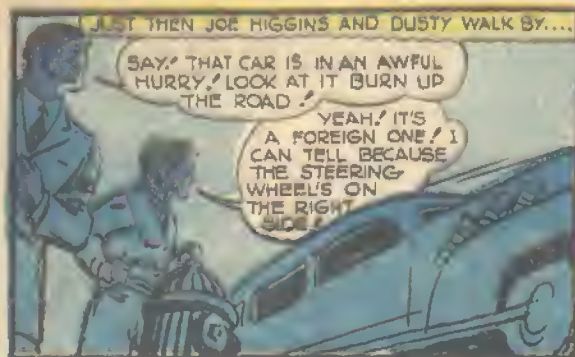
QUICK! CARRY THE BABY DOWNSTAIRS!

UMPH! GLUB!



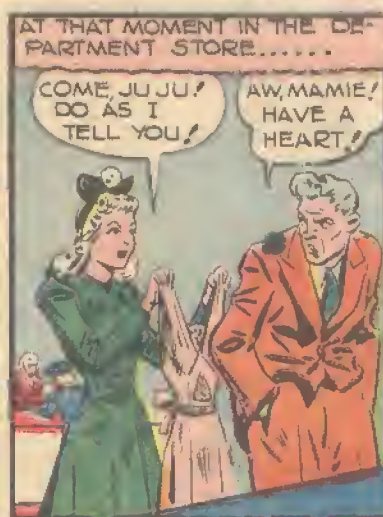
A CAR, MOTOR HUMMING IN READINESS, WAITS, PARKED NEARBY.





THEN, THE BOY DETECTIVE HEARS A FAINT RUSTLING BEHIND, BUT BEFORE HE CAN TURN....





BUT REMEMBER, KEEP ON HIS TRAIL SO THAT WE CAN GET THE INFANT BACK WHEN WE'VE GIVEN THE THE SHIELD THE SLIP. IF YOU LOSE THE BABY, DR. WANG WILL KILL YOU LIKE DOGS!



EXCUSE ME, BUT COULD YOU TELL ME THE TIME?

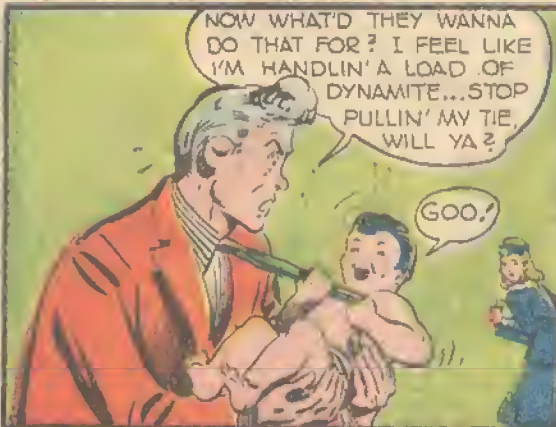


WHY... ER... AH... SURE! WAIT A MINUTE, WILL YA, MAMIE? STOP SHOVIN' PACKAGES INTO MY ARMS!

SUFFERIN' CATFISH! A BABY!.. HEY YOU GUYS, COME BACK! IT AIN'T MINE! COME BACK I TELL YA!

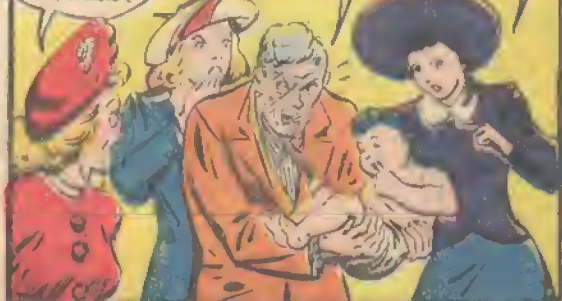


NOW WHAT'D THEY WANNA DO THAT FOR? I FEEL LIKE I'M HANDLIN' A LOAD OF DYNAMITE... STOP PULLIN' MY TIE, WILL YA?



GOO!

HEAVENS! IMAGINE BRINGING A BABY OUT ALMOST NAKED!



AW GEE... GULP! IT AIN'T MINE.. ER.. THAT IS..

THE NERVE OF SOME FATHERS!

YOUNG MAN, YOU OUGHT TO BE HORSE-WHIPPED! HAVEN'T YOU ANY FEELING FOR YOUR OWN CHILD?

BUT.. G.. GOSH LADY, I'M TRYIN' TO TELL YA, IF YOU'LL ONLY LISTEN!



JUST THEN, THE FLOOR MANAGER COMES UP....



BEG YOUR PARDON, SIR, BUT AREN'T YOU LOOKING FOR THE INFANTS WEAR DEPARTMENT?

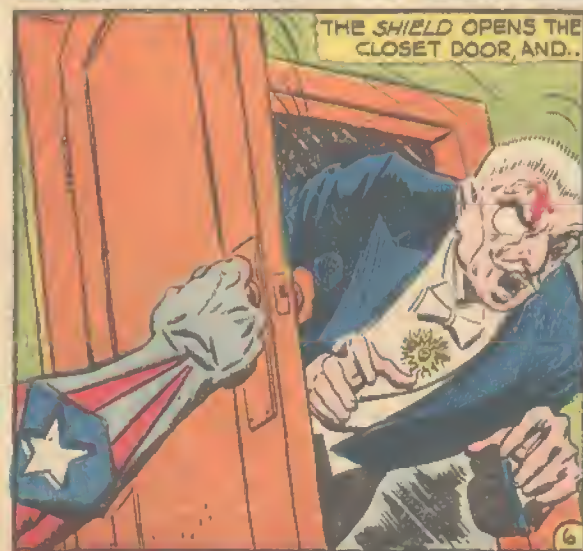
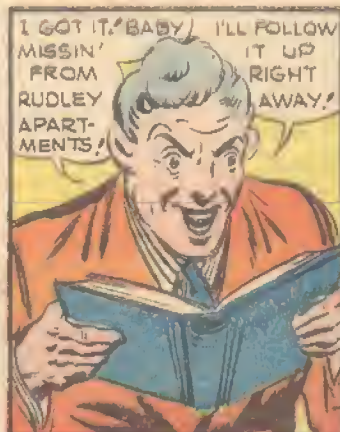
WHEW!

IT'S NEXT FLIGHT UP! SHALL I SHOW YOU THE WAY?

YEAH, SURE! ER... AH... THAT'S JUST WHAT I CAME HERE FOR... TO BUY TH' KID SOME CLOTHES.







MUST GET BABY BACK OR
TERRIBLE INTERNATIONAL
CONSEQUENCES WILL RESULT!
BABY IS KING OF RUTHAMA...
BROUGHT HIM TO AMERICA-
TO KEEP HIM OUT OF DICTAT-
OR'S HANDS UNTIL OLD
ENOUGH TO SIT ON THRONE..

THEY...THEY'LL TRY TO...
TO GET ABOARD PLANE
AT AIRPORT...FOR....
QUICK ESCAPE!..MUST
GET THERE BEFORE
THEY...DO...
AAAHH...

HE'S
DEAD!

BUT WHAT CAN HAVE HAP-
PENED TO DUSTY?..SAY,
I DIDN'T NOTICE THAT
NOTE BEFORE..!

CONFOUND THAT CLEVER
FIEND WANG! HE KNEW
I'D BE HERE AND LEFT
THIS NOTE FOR ME..!

HE SAYS HE'LL KILL DUSTY
WITHOUT A QUALM...AND I
KNOW HE'D DO IT! FIRST,
I'LL CALL UP BETTY AND
WARN HER TO STAY OUT OF
SIGHT! WANG MIGHT TRY TO
GET HER
TOO!

HELLO!..JOE?
I'M GLAD YOU
CALLED..!

DR.WANG IS ON THE
LOOSE, BETTY! HE'S
KIDNAPPED A BABY-
KING, AND...

BABY?
THAT'S FUNNY!
JU JU JUST
BROUGHT A
STRAY BABY
HERE, AND I
THOUGHT...

SUDDENLY...

GLUMPH!

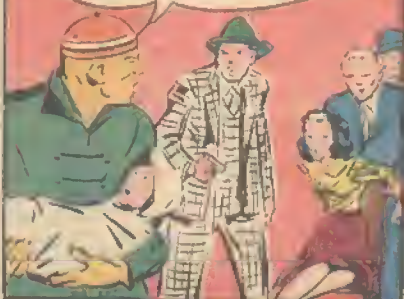
GREAT GHOSTS! MY HUNCH WAS RIGHT! WANG MUST BE IN HER ROOM RIGHT NOW!



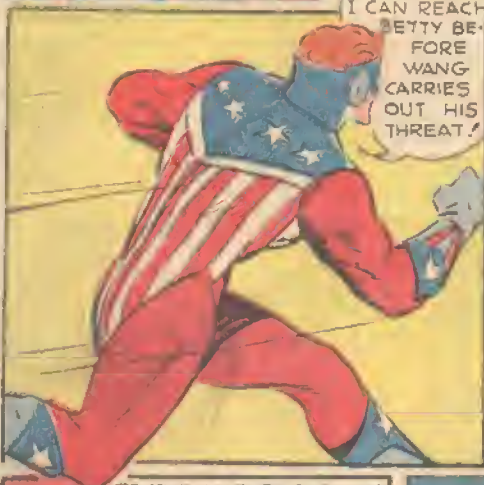
YES, MY DEAR HIGGINS! YOUR HUNCH WAS RIGHT! NOW WARN YOUR FRIEND THE SHIELD, THAT I HOLD ALL THE TRUMPS! YOUR FRIEND BETTY DIES AT ONCE, HEH HEH!



YOU SEE MY CLEVERNESS, MISS WARREN! THE SHIELD IS SURE TO COME RUNNING HERE TO SAVE YOU SO THAT HE WON'T HAVE TIME TO INTERFERE WITH MY DEPARTURE...BUT IF HE SHOULD, I STILL HAVE HIS YOUNG BOY FRIEND! FAREWELL! YOU, AT LEAST, SHALL CROSS MY PATH, NO LONGER!



PRAY HEAVEN, I CAN REACH BETTY BEFORE WANG CARRIES OUT HIS THREAT!



MEANWHILE JJJJ, THE MASTER SLEUTH, KEEPS A "VIGILANT" WATCH ON THE RUDLEY APARTMENTS!



GOTTA MATCH, MISTER?

SURE!

TO THE AIRPORT, RUDOLPH! AS SOON AS WE TAKE OFF THIS ACCURSED BRAT WILL NEVER BE ANOTHER THORN IN MY SIDE AGAIN!



JUMPIN' JIVE! THAT'S MAMIE...WHAT'S SHE DOIN' AROUND HERE, ANYWAY?



WOW...NOW I KNOW WHY THIS SECTION LOOKS FAMILIAR...I'VE BEEN WATCHIN' THE APARTMENT HOUSE BETTY LIVES IN!





JU JU...
OHHH!

UGH!
I...I'M
SHOT!

NOW, WE WIPE THEM
ALL OUT! QUICK,
HURRY TO THE AIR-
FIELD...DR. WANG
HAS BEEN LEFT
WAITING TOO
LONG, ALREADY!

WELL,
WELL, LOOK
LIKE I GOT HERE
JUST IN TIME
TO BE THE LIFE
OF THE PARTY!

THE
SHIELD!

WHAM BOOM
BANG
CRASH

OOF!

JU, JU, SWEET-
HEART, SPEAK
TO ME! (SOB,
SOB) SHIELD,
HE...HE'S
DEAD!

NO, HE'S NOT! HIS
HEART'S BEATING STRONGLY!
SOMETHING DEFLECTED THE
BULLET...SAY...WHAT'S
THIS?

THE SHIELD REMOVES THE
LIFE- SAVING OBJECT...

A LOVE
LOCKET!

WHEN HE COMES TO
HAVE HIM PUT THESE
KIDNAPPERS IN STIR,
I'VE GOT SOME MORE
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

DE WANG ARRIVES AT THE AIRPORT...

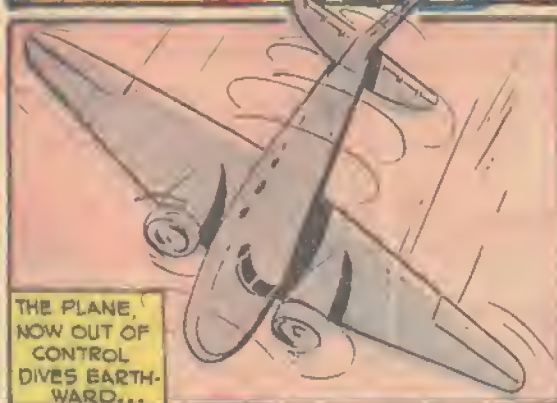


THE PLANE TAKES OFF...



FRANTICALLY, THE BOY DETECTIVE WORKS TO LOOSEN HIS BONDS UNTIL...





IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR JU JU WATSON'S CLEVER SLEUTHING, WE MIGHT ALL HAVE BEEN DEAD, NOW!

I ALWAYS SAID JU JU'S A GOOD MAN!

AW, THE WHOLE THING WUZ SIMPLE... THAT IS, PER A GUY LIKE ME, I JUST PICKED UP A CLUE IN THE BUREAU OF MISSIN' PERSONS, 'N THEN...

THERE'S THE PHONE! I'LL ANSWER IT!



HELLO... WHO? THE BUREAU OF MISSING PERSONS? HMM... IS THAT SO, HA, HA, HA... I'LL TELL MR. WATSON, THANKS!

TELL ME WHAT, JOE!

THAT CLUE YOU FOUND, YOU WERE LOOKING AT A KIDNAPPING THAT HAPPENED IN 1841!

BUT WHAT'S A MERE HUNDRED YEARS TO A G-MAN LIKE YOU, HA, HA, HA!

YOU'RE JUST JEALOUS, JOE, MY JU JU'S SMART!



THE KID THINKS SO TOO, LOOKA HIM GRAB FER ME!

YOU'VE GOT A WAY WITH KIDS AS WELL AS WOMEN, JU JU!

HEE, HEE, HE'S KINDA CUTE AT THAT, I'LL BE SORRY TO GIVE HIM BACK! AAA KITCHY, KITCHY KITCHY, KOO!

GOO!

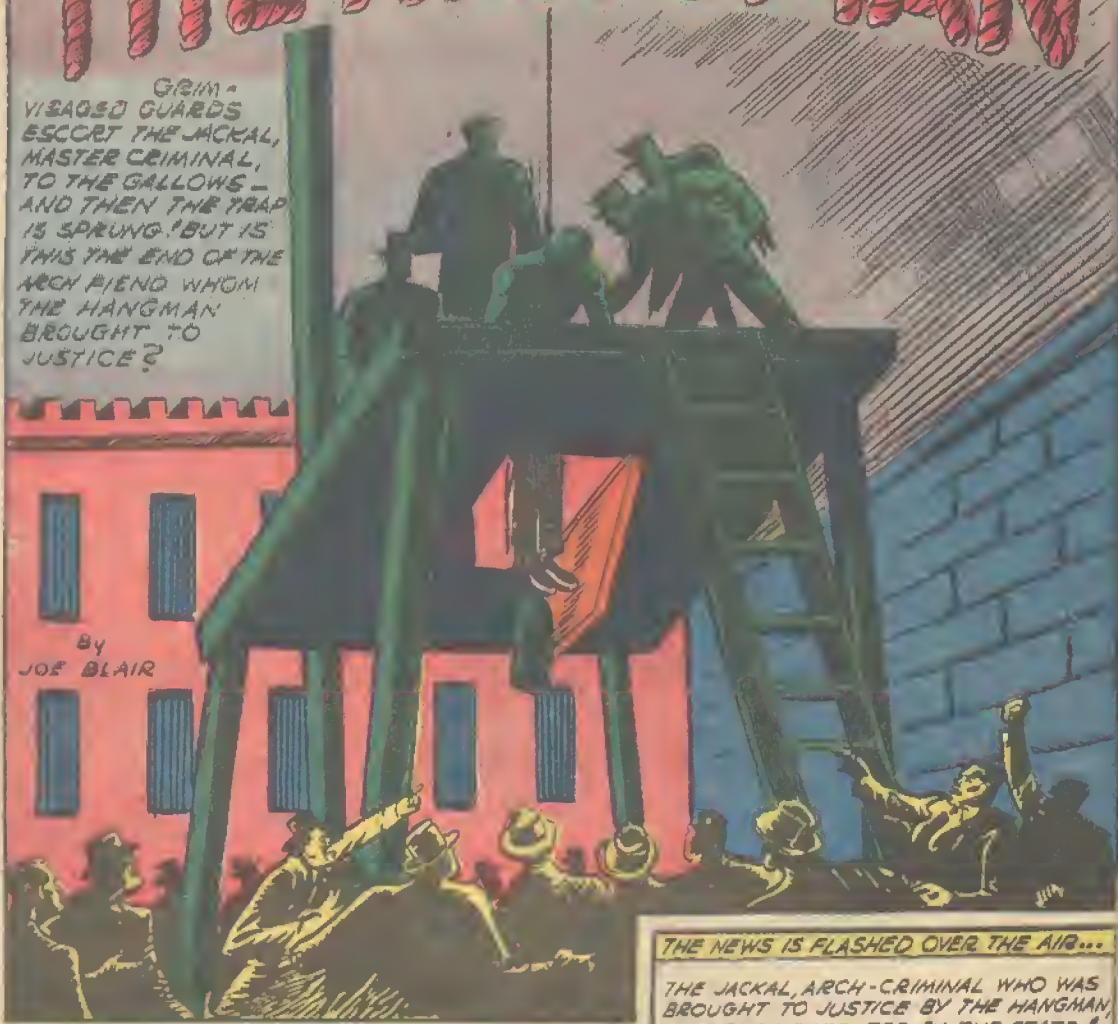


THE
ORIGINAL SHIELD
AND
DUSTY
THE BOY DETECTIVE
APPEAR **ONLY**
IN **PEP** comics
AND
SHIELD-WIZARD
comics

THE HANGMAN

GRIM-
VISAGED GUARDS
ESCORT THE JACKAL,
MASTER CRIMINAL,
TO THE GALLOWES—
AND THEN THE TRAP
IS SPRUNG! BUT IS
THIS THE END OF THE
ARCH FIEND WHOM
THE HANGMAN
BROUGHT TO
JUSTICE?

By
JOE BLAIR



THE NEWS IS FLASHED OVER THE AIR...

THE JACKAL, ARCH-CRIMINAL WHO WAS
BROUGHT TO JUSTICE BY THE HANGMAN,
HAS BEEN EXECUTED BY THE STATE.
BEFORE THE MAN DIED, HIS LAST WORDS
WERE THAT HE WOULD
RETURN TO KILL
THOSE WHO HAD
SENT HIM TO
THE GALLOWES.

THE PRISON DOCTOR
EXAMINES THE JACKAL...

THIS MAN IS
DEAD.

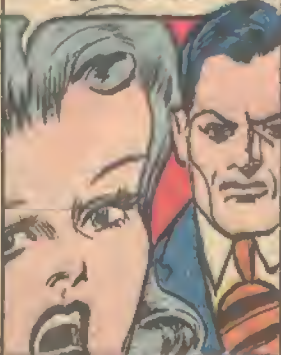


BOB DICKERING AND THELMA GORDON HEAR THE NEWS OVER THEIR RADIO....

ONE MORE CULPRIT IS FREE FROM!



BUT I'M WORRIED ABOUT HIS THREAT TO KILL YOU AND ME AND THE JUDGE WHO SENTENCED HIM! DO YOU SUPPOSE...



AT THAT MOMENT, THE JACKAL'S COFFIN IS PLACED IN THE HEARSE...



AND THE PRISON DOCTOR CLIMBS IN BESIDE THE DRIVER, TO BEGIN THE JOURNEY TO THE CEMETERY...



THE HEARSE DRIVES OUT THE GATES AND...



..A FEW MINUTES LATER...



THE JACKAL CLIMBS OUT OF HIS COFFIN, AND HIS FINGERS START TO CLOSE AROUND THE DRIVER'S NECK...



IS EVERYTHING OKAY, DOC? I HAVE A FEELING THAT—



MEANWHILE... SINCE YOU'RE STILL WORRIED ABOUT THE JACKAL, I'LL GO OUT TO THE CEMETERY AND SEE HIM BURIED WITH MY OWN EYES!



THE HANGMAN RACES ON HIS WAY...

I WOULDN'T ADMIT IT TO THEL, BUT I HAVE A STRANGE FEELING THE JACKAL IS ALIVE MYSELF!



AT THE CEMETERY... YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO KILL THE DRIVER, JACKAL! THAT WAS NEEDLESS!



WHEN I RIGGED UP THAT NECK BRACE FOR YOU, SO YOU WOULDN'T BE KILLED WHEN THEY SPRUNG THE TRAP, I ONLY DID IT BECAUSE THEY PROMISED ME A CUT OF THE LOOT YO HAVE STACKED AWAY. I DIDN'T - HEY! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?



SO YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO CASH IN ON MY LOOT, EH? HA, HA, HA! THIS IS YOUR REWARD, SAW-BONES! THE JACKAL DOESN'T LEAVE ANY WITNESSES TO SQUEAL ON HIM!



NOW I'LL JUST PUT THIS BODY IN HERE AND LEAVE HIM FOR THE CARE-TAKERS TO BURY!



AS THE JACKAL DRIVES THE HEARSE OUT OF THE CEMETARY, THE HANGMAN ARRIVES



WHAT'S THIS!! THAT ISN'T THE JACKAL! GOOD LORD- IS IT POSSIBLE THE JACKAL ESCAPED THE GALLOWS?



IF THE JACKAL IS STILL LOOSE, THELMA AND JUDGE HALE ARE IN MORTAL DANGER! BUT I'M GOING TO GET TO THE PRISON FIRST AND HAVE A TALK WITH THE WARDEN!



AS AN OFFICIAL CAR LEAVES THE PRISON YARD, THE HANGMAN PREPARES TO DASH THROUGH THE OPEN GATES...



THE HANGMAN! WHAT'S HE DOIN' HERE?

PLUG 'IM, BOYS!



THE HANGMAN LEAPS UP A WALL AND VAULTS ACROSS...



THEN RACES TOWARDS THE WARDEN'S OFFICE...

SORRY TO BE SO IMPOLITE, I'LL APOLOGIZE LATER!



HANGMAN! WHAT'S UP?

THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO KNOW! WAS THE JACKAL HANGED OR WASN'T HE?



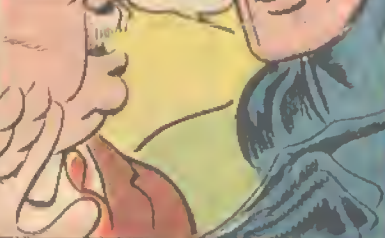
OF COURSE HE WAS! I SAW IT MYSELF! THE PRISON DOCTOR PRO-
NOUNCED HIM DEAD!



WHAT'S THE PRISON DOCTOR LOOK LIKE?

WHY, HE'S HUSKY WITH A SMALL MUSTACHE, AND—

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT!



YOUR PRISON DOCTOR IS DEAD, WARDEN! AND THE JACKAL KILLED HIM... NOW, DO ME A FAVOR! CALL THELMA GORDON AND TELL HER TO STAY HOME 'TIL SHE HEARS FROM ME!



THE HEARSE, MEANTIME, ARRIVES AT THE CENTER OF THE MID-TOWN BRIDGE...

NOW I'LL JUST PUT THE DRIVER BEHIND THE WHEEL, HOP OUT AND WATCH IT CRASH!

HEH, HEH! PERFECT PLANNING! NOBODY WILL EVER KNOW WHAT HAPPENED!

THE HEARSE CRASHES HEAD-ON INTO THE STEEL GUARD RAIL.

...AND HURTLES OFF THE BRIDGE PLUNGING AND TWISTING HUNDREDS OF FEET INTO THE RIVER BELOW!

PERFECT! ABSOLUTELY PERFECT!...NOW JUDGE HALE LIVES IN THE APARTMENT HOUSE JUST ACROSS THE BRIDGE. FIRST, I'LL GET HIM - AND THEN THELMA GORDON!

THE HANGMAN RINGS THELMA'S APARTMENT.. HELLO! ANTHRACITE? LISTEN CLOSELY! THE JACKAL IS ON THE LOOSE AGAIN! DON'T TELL MISS GORDON, BUT...

I GOT YOU, BOSS! YAS SUH! AH'LL PERFECT HER WITH MAH LIFE! YES SIREE!

WHO CALLED, ANTHRACITE?

OH-AH. THAT WAS MISTAH DICKERING, MISS GORDON! HE SAID AH SHOULD TAKE'S CARE OF YOU ALL TILL HE GIT'S BACK! IF'N YOU ALL IS SCARED OF DA JACKAL - RELAX YO' MIND! AH'LL STAND GUARD AT THE DOOR! YES SIREE!

THE JACKAL RACES TO
JUDGE HALE'S APARTMENT.

AND AFTER I GET HALE,
AND THE GORDON GIRL,
I'LL LURE THE HANGMAN
OUT AND KNOCK HIM
OFF TOO.



A WRECKING CREW IS HASTILY
SUMMONED TO RETRIEVE THE
HEARSE....



JUST AS THE HANGMAN
ARRIVES...

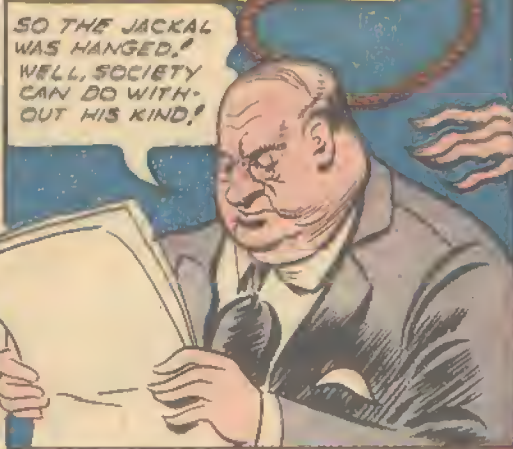
THAT'S THE PRISON
HEARSE! I'M ON
THE RIGHT
TRAIL, ALL
RIGHT! THE
JACKAL
CAN'T BE
FAR
AWAY!



AND THERE'S THE APARTMENT HOUSE WHERE
JUDGE HALE LIVES! THAT'S WHY THE JACKAL
WRECKED THE HEARSE ON THIS BRIDGE—MADE
IT EASY FOR HIMSELF TO BE WITHIN STRIKING
DISTANCE OF HIS NEXT VICTIM.



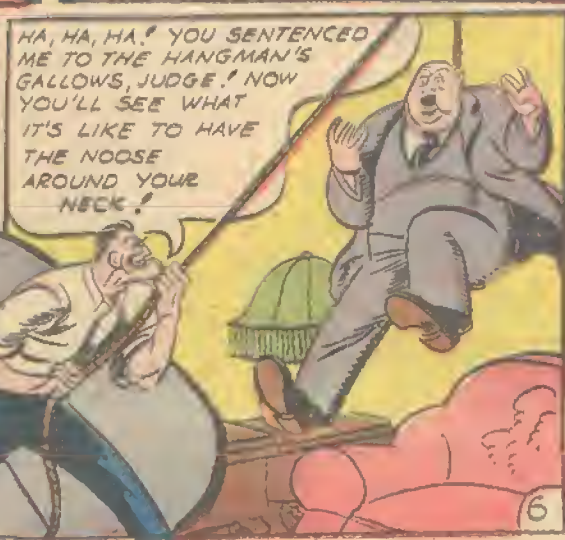
AS THE JUDGE SITS QUIETLY
READING IN HIS LIBRARY, A
NOOSE STARTS TO SETTLE
OVER HIM!...



SO THE JACKAL
WAS HANGED.
WELL, SOCIETY
CAN DO WITH-
OUT HIS KIND!



HELP!



HA, HA, HA! YOU SENTENCED
ME TO THE HANGMAN'S
GALLOWS, JUDGE! NOW
YOU'LL SEE WHAT
IT'S LIKE TO HAVE
THE NOOSE
AROUND YOUR
NECK!

A SPLIT-SECOND LATER, THE HANGMAN BURSTS THROUGH THE DOOR...

I HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE!

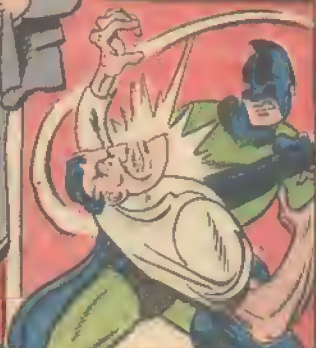


ANOTHER FEW SECONDS AND HE'LL BE DEAD! MY REVENGE WILL BE BEGUN!

LET GO OF THAT ROPE, JACKAL!



THE HANGMAN LASHES OUT WITH A VICIOUS SERIES OF BLOWS...



AFTER WE HAVE A LITTLE LESSON IN FISTICUFFS, WE'LL GET ON WITH THE REGULAR MEETING!



JUDGE HALE RIPS THE NOOSE FROM HIS NECK, AND STAGGERS TOWARDS THE WINDOW, GASPING FOR BREATH...



I'LL KILL YOU BOTH! NOBODY CAN OUTFIGHT THE JACKAL!



AS THE HANGMAN SWINGS A LEFT UPPERCUT, THE JACKAL VEERS INTO JUDGE HALE...



AND HURLS HIM THROUGH THE WINDOW, HIGH ABOVE THE RIVER!





GOOD LORD! I HOPE HE DOESN'T HIT THE PIER!



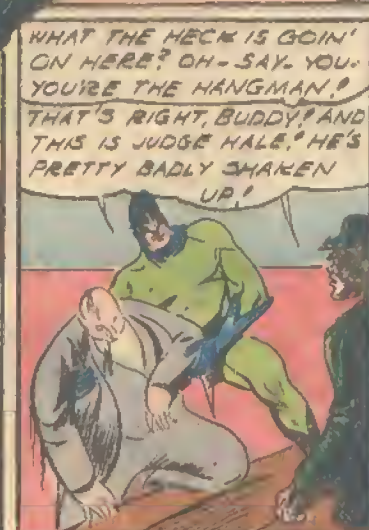
HE DIDN'T! HE LANDED IN THE WATER! THERE'S STILL A CHANCE —



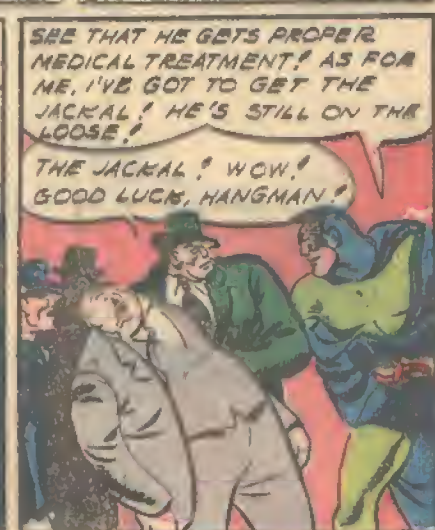
THE HANGMAN DIVES TO THE JUDGE'S RESCUE!..



A MOMENT LATER, HE COMES UP TO THE SURFACE...



WHAT THE HECK IS GOIN' ON HERE? OH—SAY, YOU—YOU'RE THE HANGMAN!
THAT'S RIGHT, BUDDY! AND THIS IS JUDGE HALE. HE'S PRETTY BADLY SHAKEN UP!



SEE THAT HE GETS PROPER MEDICAL TREATMENT! AS FOR ME, I'VE GOT TO GET THE JACKAL! HE'S STILL ON THE LOOSE!
THE JACKAL? WOW! GOOD LUCK, HANGMAN!

MEANTIME,

THAT GETS RID OF TWO OF MY VICTIMS! THE ONLY ONE LEFT IS THAT GORDON GIRL. AND SHE'S NEXT!



HEH, HEH, SO THE JUDGE AND THE HANGMAN ARE BOTH GONE!

THE HANGMAN RETURNS TO JUDGE HALE'S APARTMENT...

GONE? I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN IT!



AND I THINK I KNOW WHERE HE'S HEAD-ING, TOO!



AT THELMA'S APARTMENT... WHY ALL THE ARTIL- LERY, ANTHRACITE? AH PROMISED AND GUARD YOU WIF MY LIFE.

AN' THAT'S WHAT AH'M GONNA DO!



OH, HO HO HUM! LACK-A-DAY! AH SURE COULD DO WIF SOME SHUT-EYE-BUT AH'LL STAY AWAKE IFN IT KILLS ME!



A FEW MINUTUES LATER...



THE DOOR EASES OPEN, AND THE JACKAL ENTERS THE ROOM..

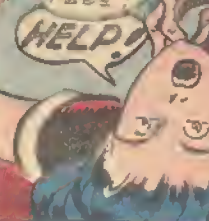


SOUNDLESSLY, HE SLIPS INTO THE NEXT ROOM, HIS MURDEROUS FINGERS REACH-ING OUT FOR THELMA'S THROAT!..



I WISH BOB WOULD COME BACK! I FEEL-

YOU FEEL THE JACKAL'S FINGERS AROUND YOUR THROAT. THAT'S WHAT YOU FEEL!



SO YOU THOUGHT YOU GOT
RID OF THE JACKAL,
EH? YOU THOUGHT
I'D DIE ON THE GAL-
LOWS! BUT NOW
YOU ARE THE ONE
WHO WILL DIE!

DON'T BE SO
SURE OF
THAT,
JACKAL!

THE HANGMAN!
YOU—AGAIN!
THIS TIME I'LL
FIX YOU FOR
GOOD!

YOU MURDERING HOUND!
YOU'VE CLAIMED YOUR
LAST VICTIM!



THE JACKAL SEIZES A
HUGE BRASS VASE, LIFTS
IT HIGH ABOVE HIS HEAD—
AND HURLS IT!

THIS WILL
SHUT YOU
UP!



HEH, HEH! THE
FOOL! NOW—
THE JACKAL WILL
FINISH THEM
BOTH!



BUT THE JACKAL IS ALWAYS A
GENTLEMAN! LADIES
FIRST!

NO!
NO!



OUTSIDE IN THE FOYER,
ANTHRACITE TEETERS
ON HIS CHAIR...



...AND FALLS OFF!

MAH GOODNESS! THAT
CHICKEN MUST A'
BEEN LOADED!

BANG!!

BANG!!



I'LL SETTLE MY SCORE WITH THE
HANGMAN SOME OTHER TIME!
RIGHT NOW, I MUST ESCAPE!



THE JACKAL ATTACHES THE
END OF THE ROPE INSIDE
THE APARTMENT AND LETS
HIMSELF DOWN THE SIDE
OF THE BUILDING...



WHEW! WHAT A NASTY
SMACK! GOT, THELMA—
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?



SO THERE HE IS! THINKS
HE'LL MAKE A GETAWAY.
DOES HE? HEY JACKAL!



CURSES! BUT HE'LL
NEVER GET ME NOW!
I'LL ESCAPE AND COME
BACK ANOTHER DAY
TO FINISH HIM OFF!



ALL I HAVE TO
DO NOW IS LEAP
ONTO THAT
LEDGE BELOW
AND I'M SAFE.



THE JACKAL
LEARNS — UN-
MINDFUL OF
THE FACT THAT
THE NOOSE
DANGLES
PERILOUSLY
CLOSE!!



HE'S CAUGHT HIS NECK IN HIS OWN
NOOSE! DON'T LOOK, THELMA!



YAH GOODNESS! IS YOU
HERE, BOSS? YOU ALL
KIN RELAX! NOBODY
COULD GET IN HERE WHILE
AHM ON GUARD!
NO SIRREE!



THE JACKAL ESCAPED THE GALLOWES — BUT IN
THE END, HE WAS HIS OWN HANGMAN!

THE FIREBALL

TED TYLER, THE FIREBALL, GIVES HIMSELF HIS FIRST ASSIGNMENT AS A FIREMAN...TO QUESTION THE BIO-SHOT POLITICIAN, JIM OLIVER, ABOUT A FIRE STARTED UNDER PECULIAR CIRCUMSTANCES. AS HE AND HEDY HARRIS, THE FIRE CHIEF'S DAUGHTER, APPROACH THE BUILDING IN WHICH OLIVER HAS HIS OFFICE, A HORRIBLE TABLEAU IS ENACTED BEFORE THEIR EYES.

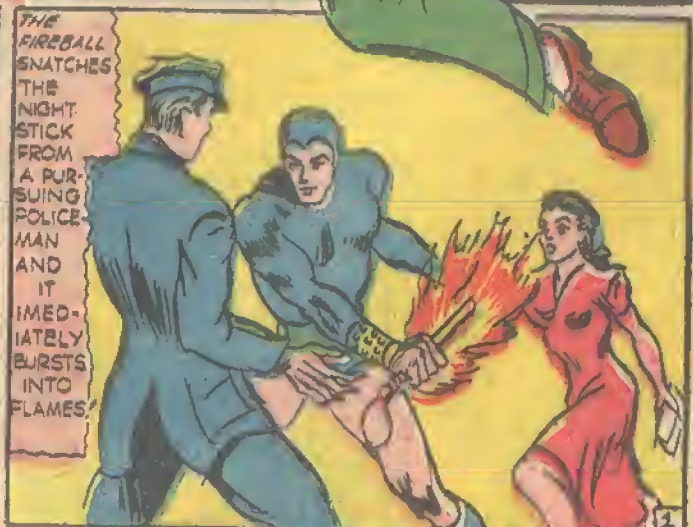


IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE, TED DISCARDS HIS CLOTHING AND THE FIREBALL STANDS FORTH...

"THE MISERABLE MURDERING RATS."



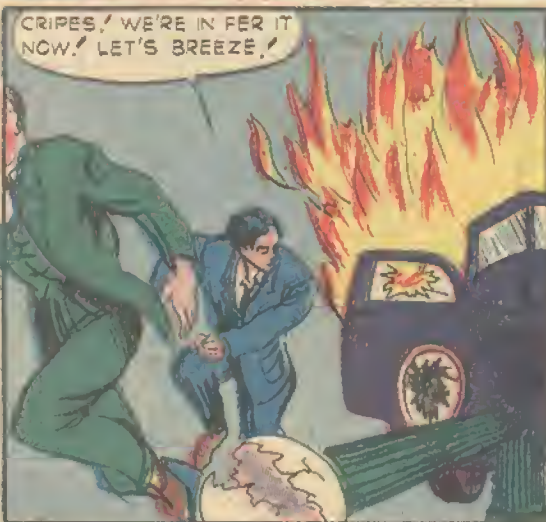
THE FIREBALL SNATCHES THE NIGHT STICK FROM A PURSUING POLICE MAN AND IT IMMEDIATELY BURSTS INTO FLAMES.



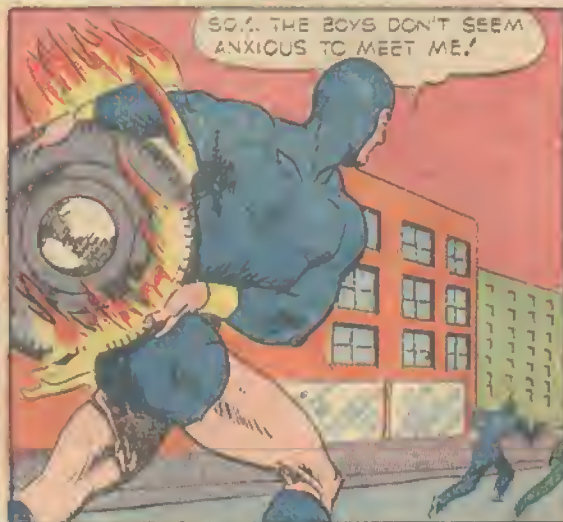
THE FIREBALL HURLS THE FLAMING
NIGHT-STICK AFTER THE FLEEING
CAR...



...AND IGNITES THE CANVAS
TOP! SOON THE CAR IS AL-
MOST COMPLETELY ABLAZE.



CRIPES, WE'RE IN FER IT
NOW! LET'S BREEZE!



SO, THE BOYS DON'T SEEM
ANXIOUS TO MEET ME!



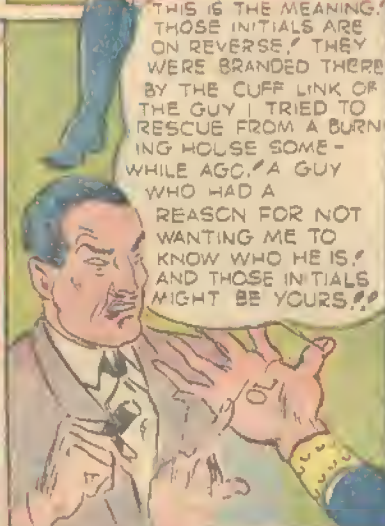
A FLAMING WHEEL ZOOMS
DOWN THE STREET TOWARD
THE SCURRYING BANDITS...



HOLY JOE... LOOK WHAT'S
COMIN' AT US! SCATTER, OR...



BUT BEFORE THEY CAN SCATTER,
OOMP!
BOOM!



YOU'RE CRAZY, FIREBALL! IT'S JUST A CO-INCIDENCE! YOUR SECRETARY WAS MURDERED IN FRONT OF YOUR BUILDING JUST NOW!



THE FIREBALL GRASPS A CHAIR, WHICH IMMEDIATELY BURSTS INTO FLAMES...

I SEE I'LL HAVE TO USE DIFFERENT METHODS OF PERSUASION TO MAKE YOU TALK!



HERE'S A SAMPLE OF THE KIND OF HOTSEAT IN STORE FOR YOU!

NO..NO! TAKE ME TO THE POLICE! I'LL TELL EVERYTHING!



NOW YOU'RE COOKIN' WITH GAS!..WE'LL DROP IN ON THE CITY'S FINEST RIGHT NOW!



66th PRECINCT

HERE WE ARE!.. NOW GET YOUR TONGUE OILED UP!.. AND DON'T HOLD ANYTHING BACK!



HOLD ONTO YOUR HAT, CHIEF...BIG-SHOT OLIVER'S JUST ABOUT TO CONFESS TO MURDER...AND MAYBE A COUPLE OF OTHER ASSORTED CRIMES!



SUDDENLY, WITHOUT WARNING...

HEY, WHAT'S THIS!

SNAP THE CUFFS ON HIM, QUICK!



THIS WATER HOSE'LL KEEP YOU FROM GOING INTO YOUR FLAME ACT, FIREBALL! YEAH, AND THIS GUN SHOOTS AWFUL QUICK!



HA, HA, HA! SO YOU THOUGHT ALL YOU HAD TO DO WAS BRING ME TO THE POLICE, EH? I SHOULDN'T BE A BIT SURPRISED IF THE COPS GET A CONFESSION OF MURDER FROM YOU!



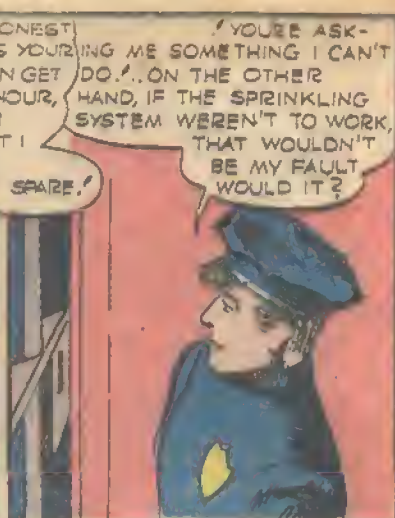


HERE HE IS, FIREBALL!

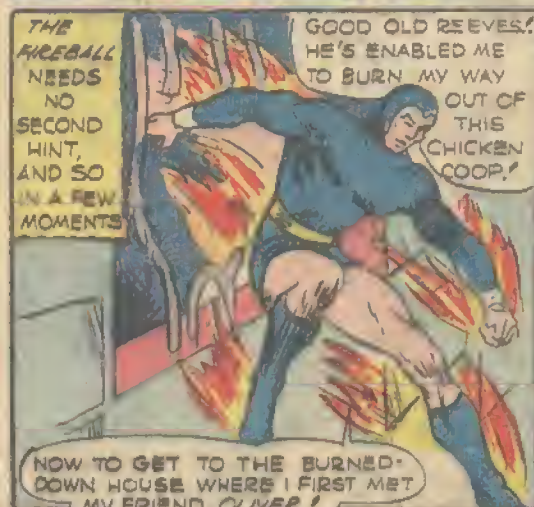
WHAT'S UP?



YOU TOLD ME YOU WERE AN HONEST COP, DIDN'T YOU?... WELL, HERES YOUR CHANCE TO PROVE IT... IF I CAN GET OUT OF HERE FOR ABOUT A HOUR, I MIGHT GET SOMETHING ON OLIVER! BUT I HAVEN'T A SECOND TO SPARE!



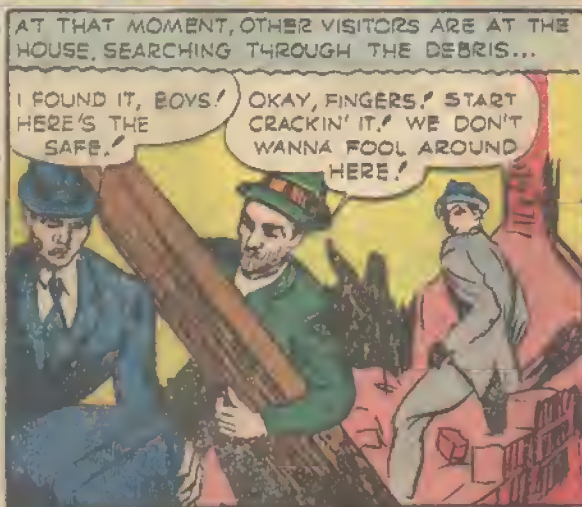
YOU'RE ASKING ME SOMETHING I CAN'T DO... ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THE SPRINKLING SYSTEM WEREN'T TO WORK, THAT WOULDN'T BE MY FAULT, WOULD IT?



THE FIREBALL NEEDS NO SECOND HINT, AND SO IN A FEW MOMENTS

GOOD OLD REEVES! HE'S ENABLED ME TO BURN MY WAY OUT OF THIS CHICKEN COOP!

NOW TO GET TO THE BURNED-DOWN HOUSE WHERE I FIRST MET MY FRIEND, OLIVER!



AT THAT MOMENT, OTHER VISITORS ARE AT THE HOUSE, SEARCHING THROUGH THE DEBRIS...

I FOUND IT, BOYS! HERE'S THE SAFE!

OKAY, FINGERS! START CRACKIN' IT! WE DON'T WANNA FOOL AROUND HERE!



HERE SHE COMES!... THESE MUST BE THE PAPERS THE BOSS TOLD US TO BURN! WELL, HERE GOES!



JUST THEN..

SO I HAD THE RIGHT HUNCH AFTER ALL!

TH.. THE FIREBALL!



YES, THE FIREBALL! AND I'M GOING TO TEACH YOU NOT TO PLAY WITH FIRE!

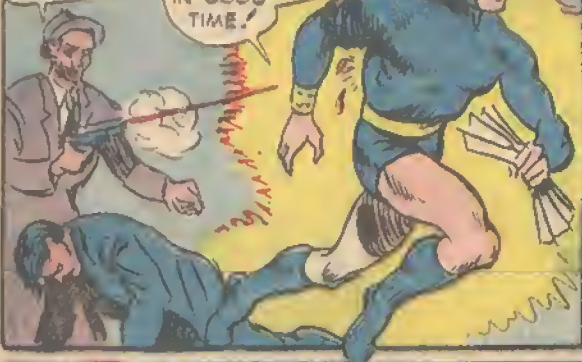
BOOM!

AWWER!

THE FIREBALL ABSORBS THE FLAMES FROM THE BURNING EVIDENCE....

WH.. THE BULLETS ARE MELTING!

I CAN'T BE BOTHERED WITH THESE SMALL FRY NOW. THEY'LL ALL BE TAKEN CARE OF IN GOOD TIME!



WHILE AT JIM OLIVER'S HOME...

HAW, HAW! 'MAGINE THAT FIREBALL THINKIN' HE COULD OUTSMART(HIC) ME, BIG JIM OLIVER. I RUN THIGH TOWN(HIC) 'N EVERYONE IN IT. SOON ASH MY BOYS BURN UP THAT EVIDENSH(HIC) WON'T BE ANYONE ABLE TO TOUCH ME!



SUDDENLY...

YOU'RE UNDER ARREST, OLIVER!



I'LL HAVE YOU BROKE FOR THIS REEVES, I'LL...

YOU'RE THROUGH, OLIVER! THE GOVERNOR IS TAKING A HAND IN YOUR CASE!



AND HE'S GIVEN ME SPECIAL POWERS, ON THE STRENGTH OF EVIDENCE THE FIREBALL FOUND, TO PUT YOU BEHIND BARS. ALL THE CROOKED COPS WORKING WITH YOU ARE ALSO ON THEIR WAY OUT!

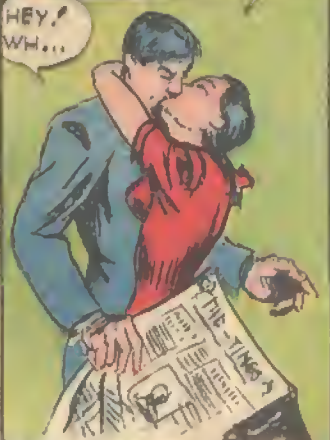


NEXT DAY... HMM! QUITE A PEECE IN TODAY'S PAPER ABOUT THE GRAFT SHAKEUP IN THIS CITY!



YES, AND YOU'RE THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR IT... OH TED, YOU'RE WONDERFUL!

HEY! WH...



WHEW! YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO TURN ON THE HEAT!

I'M TAKING LESSONS FROM THE FIREBALL... AND THIS IS ONLY THE FIRST!



SERGEANT BOYLE

BY
HUBBELL-

SERGEANT BOYLE'S ARM GOT IN THE WAY OF A NAZI SNIPER'S MACHINE GUN IN SYRIA. AND HE IS NOW ENJOYING(?) AN ENFORCED VACATION IN PHYSHNCHIPS, A SMALL FARMING VILLAGE ON THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. AS BOYLE AND TWEED RETURN TO THEIR ROOMS, THE LOCAL HOME DEFENSE UNIT LINES UP FOR ITS WEEKLY INSPECTION

NO KIDDIN', SARGE, DID YOU EVER SEE SO MUCH FRUIT? IT JUST DROPS OFF THE TREES!

BOY, WHAT A HIGHCLASS BUNCH, NOW THAT'S WHAT I'D CALL A SNAPPY LOOKIN' OUTFIT!



YOU MUST BE SERGEANT BOYLE, NO? YOU LIKE SAY A FEW WORDS TO THE ARMY?

BETTER NOT TEMPT ME, IT MIGHT NOT BE TOO COMPLIMENTARY!

NO, NO, I INSEET!

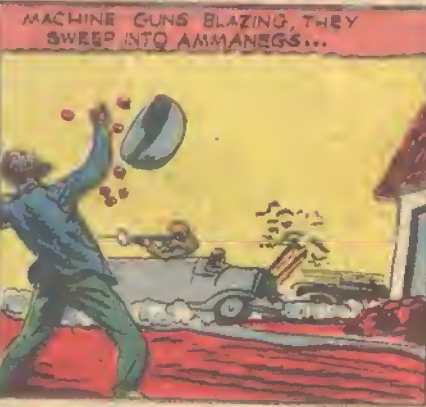
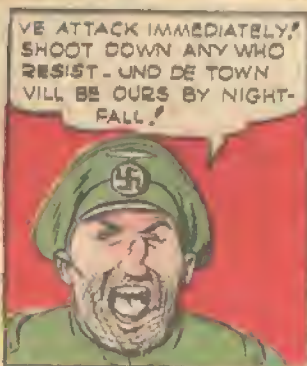


WELL OKAY, YOU ASKED FOR IT, NOW LISTEN TO ME, YOU MEN, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE SOLDIERS, ALTHOUGH NO ONE'D EVER KNOW. ALSO, THERE'S A WAR GOING ON AND IT'S JUST DUMB LUCK THAT IT HASN'T HIT THIS SPOT YET!



IF THE HEINIES WALKED IN TOMORROW, YOU MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO HOLD THEM OFF BUT YOU COULD AT LEAST PUT UP A FRONT. THAT RIFLE HASN'T BEEN CLEANED SINCE THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR. AN' WHY DON'T YOU PULL UP YOUR SOCKS? AND YOU DIDN'T EVEN BOTHER PUTTIN' ON YOUR SHOES!





SERGEANT BOYLE, MEANWHILE,
IS GETTING HUNGRY... BUT PLENTY!

!!O*?!! TWERP'S BEEN
PUTTERING AROUND THAT KIT-
CHEN FOR
HALF AN
HOUR,
I WONDER
WHAT'S
UP.



LISTEN THERE,
TWERP, HOW
ABOUT SOME
VITTLES/ OR
MAYBE WE'VE
GIVEN UP EATING? BROCCOLI!



FOR PETE'S SAKE!
ARE YOU KIDDIN'?
THAT'S NOTHING
TO CRY ABOUT.

IT ISN'T
THAT, YOU
DOPE, IT'S
THIS ONION.



KEEP AN EYE
ON THE STRAK,
SARGE. I'LL
BE
RIGHT BACK.

WELL, OKAY!
BUT MAKE IT
SNAPPY BEFORE
I DIE OF STARVA-
TION.

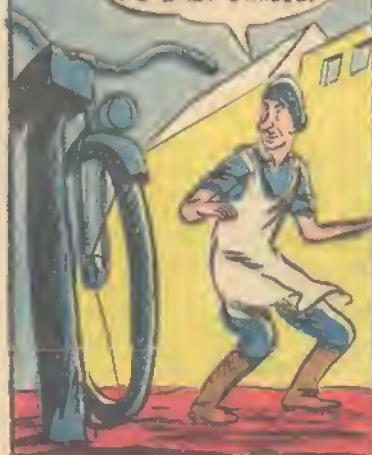


TWO BIG
BUNCHES OF
BROCCOLI AN'
NEVER MIND
WRAPPIN' EM.

NO
MORE
BROCCOLI.



SAY, NOW THERE'S
AN IDEA. I CAN RIDE
OVER TO THE NEXT
TOWN, AMMANEGS.
IT'S ONLY 5 MILES!



I'LL BE
BACK BE-
FORE BOYLE
EVEN KNOWS
I'M GONE!



GEE, THE JOINT'S
DESERTED.



SHUT
UP!



WHAT CAN BE
KEEPING TWERP?
I WONDER.



OF ALL THE BURGLES
TO BE STUCK IN, TX!!
I'D EVEN WELCOME
SEEN THAT DRIP
COLLINS!



HELPA!
CROOKA!
COME
BACK!

WHAT'S EATIN' THIS
GUY? HE SEEMS
EXCITED.



ATSA WHAT I SAID,
ONE ENGLISH SOLDIER
HE STEAL MY BICYCLE,
I GETTA HEEM
BACK?



LET'S GET THIS STRAIGHT,
A GUY IN AN ENGLISH
UNIFORM SWIPED YOUR
BIKE AND HEADS DOWN...
HEY, NOW WHO'S
THIS?



HELP!

NAZIS!

OOOOOON,
IT'S AWFUL!



WAIT UP A MINUTE,
PAL, WHAT'S IT
ALL ABOUT? LET'S
HAVE IT.

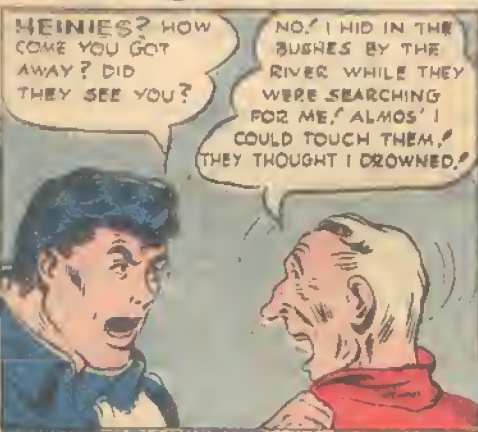


NAZIS, HUNDREDS OF 'EM,
THEY'RE ALL OVER THE
VILLAGE, I MUST GET
HELP.



HEINIES? HOW
COME YOU GOT
AWAY? DID
THEY SEE YOU?

NO, I HID IN THE
BUSHES BY THE
RIVER WHILE THEY
WERE SEARCHING
FOR ME, ALMOST I
COULD TOUCH THEM,
THEY THOUGHT I DROWNED.



NO, NO,
DONTA GO,
YOU'LL BE
KILLED.



SEE THAT THAT MESSAGE
GETS TO THE GENERAL, TELL
HIM TO WAIT TELL HE GETS
MY SIGNAL, IT'S A BROAD
CHANCE BUT WE'VE
GOT TO TAKE IT.

AN I'VE NURSED THIS
ARM LONG ENOUGH,

TAKEN PRISONER, TWERP IS BROUGHT BEFORE THE NAZI COMMANDER...

WHO ISS DIS? HE WAS IN A GRO- WHERE DID YOU FIND HIM? CERY. HE SAYS HE WAS BUYING SPAGHOLI.



SO YOU ARE A COOK, NO? GOOT. YOU VILL COOK FOR US, UND IT HAD BETTER BE GOOT.



GIFTS NOW A SEFFEN.

SHUT UP UND SHOOT!

BOY, IF I ONLY HAD A GUN, WE'D SEE SOME REAL SHOOTING.



SUDDENLY, A PAIR OF MUSCULAR HANDS PLUNGE THROUGH THE WINDOW...



DID YOU SEND FOR AN EX-TERMINATOR?



COME BACK HERE, I'M NOT FINISHED WITH YOU!

HELP! AN ENGLISHER! HELP!



DON'T WORRY, SARGE, I'LL GET HIM! NO, DON'T, TWERP, HE'S WARNED THE WHOLE PLACE BY NOW, BESIDES I HAVE A BETTER PLAN.



GOT THAT? IT'S UP TO YOU NOW SO BE SURE THERE AREN'T ANY SLIPS. I'LL HIDE IN HERE TILL THE COAST IS CLEAR.

KEEP COOL, BOYLE, LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME.



DOT SPY. WHERE ISS HE? SPEAK!

SPY? OH-HIM! HE ESCAPED OUT THE WINDOW, SAY, CAPTAIN, I JUST HAD A THOUGHT.

ESCAPED? SCATTER UND FIND HIM, MEN!



IF I SET UP A GRILL IN THE TOWN SQUARE, YOU GUYS COULD HAVE A REAL WEINIE ROAST. HOW ABOUT IT?

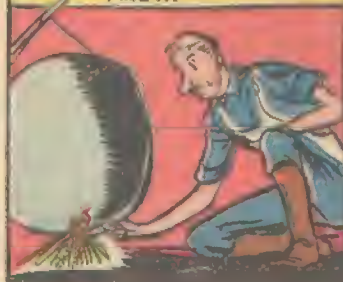
SAY, DOT'S A GOOD IDEA, GO TO IT!



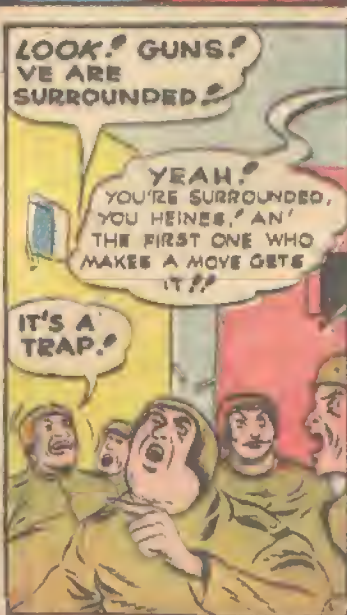
WHILE THE NAZI SCOUR THE VILLAGE IN SEARCH OF DOYLE...



TWEED SETS UP THE OUTDOOR KITCHEN AND LIGHTS THE FIRE...



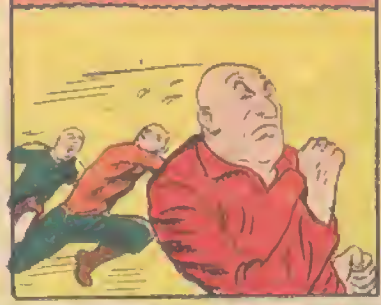
AND SO, SOON THE AROMA OF WEINERS AND ONION SOUP DRIFTS THROUGH THE STREETS...



NO, NO. IT'S ALL A TRICK. DEY HAF NO ARMY. QUICK. TO DE ARSENAL.



AT THIS MOMENT, THE HOME DEFENSE ARMY, IN ANSWER TO BOYLE'S SHOT, RUSHES INTO AMMANEGS...



THE TWO FORCES COME MOMENTARILY FACE TO FACE



GERMANS. RUNA FOR YOUR LIVES. HELP. NAZIS. RUN LIKE ANYTHING.

WELL, I'LL BE A MONKEY'S UNCLE. RUN. ACH. HIMMEL!



HEY, YOU BIRDS! THEY'RE RUNNING FROM YOU!



WHAT FROM US THEY ARE RUNNING?

LOOK! THEY ARE RUNNING THE OTHER WAY, AFTER THEM.



THE UNEXPECTED RESULT OF THIS TEST OF NERVES AT FIRST PUZZLES THE DEFENDERS... THEN TO A MAN, THEY TURN AND PURSUE THE DISORGANIZED GERMANS INTO THE HILLS...



BOY! THAT SURE WAS ONE FOR THE BOOKS! YEAH! THEY'LL NEVER STOP RUNNING! COME ON, SARGE, LET'S EAT.



BOYLE. LOOK. THE FOOD - IT'S ALL GONE.



COLLINS. SO YOU ATE ALL THE CHOW!

H'YA BOYLE! IT WAS SWEET OF YOU TO HAVE THAT SPREAD FOR US, BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW WE WERE COMIN'?



FOR YOU? WHY YOU.. !!!O!!

HEY! SUCH HOS-PITALITY. OKAY, IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANT IT,!!



NEW! DIFFERENT! SPECTACULAR!

BLACK JACK

STARTING IN THE NOV. ISSUE OF *ZIP COMICS*!!


FATE SHUFFLES THE CARDS AND GIVES YOU **BLACK JACK**! TOGETHER WITH STEEL STERLING, MAN OF STEEL, *ZIP COMICS*

NOW BECOMES THE *BEST* COMIC MAGAZINE IN THE WORLD! RESERVE YOUR COPY NOW!!



LAW BREAKERS! YOUR DOOM IS SEALED! FOR YOU HAVE BEEN DEALT **THE BLACK JACK**

MADAM Satan



UP THROUGH THE DARK CLOUDS
TO BALD MOUNTAIN, STRONGHOLD
OF THE DEVIL, COMES BROTHER
BUNBEAM. ARRIVING, HE FINDS
THE DEVIL ABOUT TO SEND MADAM
SATAN INTO THE WORLD ON ONE
OF HER ERRANDS OF
MISERY AND DESTRUCTION!

HO! SATAN! I COME
TO DELIVER A MESSAGE
GIVE UP YOUR EVIL
PLOTING AGAINST MAN.
FOR YOU ARE DOOMED
TO FAILURE. MAN IS
ESSENTIALLY GOOD!

YOU FOOL.
ONCE I HAVE
BECOME IMBED-
DED IN MAN'S
HEART, THERE
IS NO ROOM FOR
GOOD. EVIL WILL
PREVAIL!

THE SCENE IS AN ART EXHIBIT AT THE MID-TOWN GALLERIES. AMONG THE AUDIENCE IS IOLA.... MADAM SATAN....



ISN'T THAT A BEAUTIFUL PAINTING?

THAT'S SOME OF RALPH SAUNDERS' WORK. HE'S REALLY GOING PLACES!



DARLING, DO YOU HEAR WHAT THEY'RE SAYING!

YES DEAD, WHAT- EVER PRAISE I GET BELONGS TO YOU! MY WORK DEPENDS ON YOUR INSPIRATION!



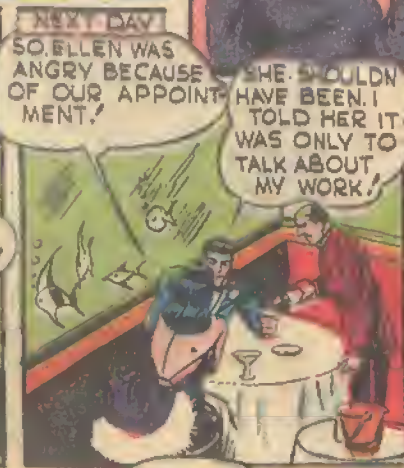
MAY I SEE YOU FOR A MOMENT-- ALONE?

WHY...ER... YES



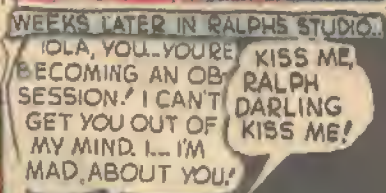
RALPH, WHAT DID THAT...THAT PECULIAR LOOKING WOMAN WANT?

OH...AH... SHE ASKED ME TO DINE WITH HER TO-MORROW TO DISCUSS ART!



NEXT DAY SO ELLEN WAS ANGRY BECAUSE OF OUR APPOINTMENT.

SHE SHOULD HAVE BEEN. I TOLD HER IT WAS ONLY TO TALK ABOUT MY WORK!



WEEKS LATER IN RALPH'S STUDIO.

IOLA, YOU...YOU'RE BECOMING AN OBSESSION! I CAN'T GET YOU OUT OF MY MIND. I'M MAD ABOUT YOU!

KISS ME, RALPH DARLING KISS ME!



RALPH!



RALPH, I'VE BEEN YOUR FRIEND FOR A LONG TIME, BUT AFTER PLAYING SUCH A FOUL TRICK ON ELLEN, WE'RE THROUGH.... YOU-- YOU MISERABLE CAD!

AS MADAM SATAN DRAWS RALPH TOWARD HER FOR THE KISS.... THE KISS OF DEATH!

IM IN LOVE WITH HER MYSELF YET SHE PREFERS YOU. I DONT KNOW WHY. YOU'RE NOT WORTHY OF HER!

IM PERFECTLY CAPABLE OF LEADING MY OWN LIFE. I DONT NEED ANY INTERFERENCE FROM YOU.



THIS IS WHAT YOU NEED, YOU UNGRATEFUL PUP



PERHAPS YOU'LL COME TO YOUR SENSES AND REALIZE WHAT YOU ARE DOING!



THE FOOLS, THEY DONT UNDERSTAND YOU!

THEY'LL REGRET THIS INTRUSION INTO MY AFFAIRS!



FAITH IN HUMANS AND HUMAN GOODNESS, HA-HA- I'LL SHOW THAT MEDDLESOME SUNBEAM HOW MUCH THEY MEAN!

HIGH UP ON BALD MOUNTAIN THE DEVIL LOOKS ON GLEEFULLY...

IOLA, IM MAD ABOUT YOU. IM GOING TO PAINT YOU AS I SEE YOU AND PRESENT YOUR BEAUTIFUL SOUL TO THE WORLD!



THE STUPID MORTAL HE'S LIKE CLAY IN MY HANDS I CAN DO WITH HIM AS I WISH!

AFTER DAYS OF
FEVERISH WORK.

I'M TIRED!
I CAN'T GO ON!

RALPH! YOUR
WORK, YOU CAN'T
LEAVE IT LIKE
THIS!

I'LL BE BACK.
PERHAPS A LITTLE
WALK IN THE FRESH AIR,
BY MYSELF IS WHAT
I NEED.

AS HE WALKS AIMLESSLY THROUGH
THE STREETS, THINKING, THE ART-
IST'S FOOTSTEPS CARRY HIM
CLOSER AND CLOSER TO THE
WATERFRONT...

I'M SO CONFUSED.
SUDDENLY LIFE SEEMS
SO EMPTY AND
BARREN FOR ME!

AS HE DECIDES TO
JUMP, ELLEN, WHO HAD
SEEN HIM WANDERING
THROUGH THE STREETS
COMES RUSHING UP

RALPH!
RALPH!
DON'T!

IT USED TO BE SO FULL AND COM-
PLETE. PERHAPS I'VE NOTHING
LEFT TO LIVE FOR. IT MIGHT BE
WISER FOR ME TO GET OUT
OF IT ENTIRELY...

AS THEY STRUGGLE MOMENTARILY,
ELLEN STUMBLES AND FALLS...

ELLEN! ELLEN!
WHAT HAVE I
DONE!

WHAT'S COME
OVER YOU? ARE
YOU MAD?

LET ME ALONE!
IT'S THE ONLY
THING LEFT
FOR ME!





HE TURNS IN DESPAIR TO RECEIVE THE CONSOL-
ING EMBRACE OF THE SHE-DEVIL... THE SPIRIT
OF THE DEAD GIRL APPEARS....



RUSHING TO THE CANVAS, HE RIPS OFF THE COVER
AND THERE, STARING AT HIM, IS IOLA IN HER TRUE
LIGHT-MADAM SATAN.

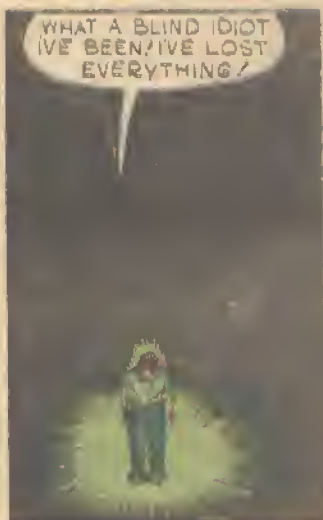




YOU FIEND! IT WAS YOU WHO DROVE ME TO THIS! YOU BLINDED ME TO ALL REALITY! I'M GOING TO KILL YOU!



REALIZING THAT HER FIENDISH SPELL IS BROKEN, MADAM SATAN DISAPPEARS IN A CLOUD OF SMOKE



WHAT A BLIND IDIOT I'VE BEEN! I'VE LOST EVERYTHING!



NO! I'VE STILL GOT SOMETHING! I'VE GOT THE MEMORY OF YOU TO DRIVE ME ON TO BETTER THINGS!



I CAN'T STOP! I'VE GOT TO KEEP ON WORKING AND WORKING!



MONTHS LATER

MR. SAUNDERS IT'S A GREAT PLEASURE TO PRESENT YOU WITH THE GREENFIELD MEDAL FOR REALISM IN ART. YOUR WORK IS A TRUE REPRESENTATION OF LIFE AND ITS STRUGGLES. IT IS SYMBOLIC AND WILL BE REMEMBERED!



SEE, ELLEN, I KNEW IT. GOOD WILL ALWAYS CONQUER EVIL EVEN THOUGH AT TIMES THERE MUST BE GREAT SORROW AND TRAGEDY TO BRING IT TO THE FORE.

WHILE OFF THROUGH THE RISING SUN RIDE BROTHER SUNBEAM AND ELLEN'S SPIRIT, HAPPY AT THE THOUGHT THAT THEY HAVE GUIDED RALPH SAFELY THROUGH HIS TRIBULATIONS.

KAYO WARD

by HARRY SHORTEN

IN THE LAST ISSUE, KAYO WARD WAS ABOUT TO BE SUBJECTED TO A MAJOR OPERATION BY DR. GRAVES, IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO RESTORE HIS HORRIBLY, BURN-SCARRED FACE TO NORMAL. WILL THE OPERATION PROVE A SUCCESS? THE OUTCOME IS NOW IN THE LAPS OF THE GODS!



MARTHA, DEAR! CALM YOURSELF! YOU'RE TREMBLING LIKE A LEAF!

I...I CAN'T HELP IT, MOTHER. OH, I DO HOPE FATHER IS ABLE TO FIX KAYO'S FACE!

I MUST GO IN AND SEE HOW HE FEELS!

THE POOR DEAR! HE'S STILL UNDER ETHER. OH, HOW I DO LOVE HIM! HE'S SO NOBLE AND KIND AND BRAVE...AND I DON'T CARE WHAT HIS FACE LOOKS LIKE!



B. BUT (SNIFF, SNIFF), HE DOESN'T LOVE ME. IT'S THIS GIRL ON THE PICTURE HE CONSTANTLY CARRIES WITH HIM HE REALLY LOVES (SOB, SOB)

BUT KAYO HAS NOT BEEN ASLEEP... AND AFTER MARTHA LEAVES...

NEXT DAY...

WELL, THIS IS THE DAY WE REMOVE THE BANDAGES, KAYO!

G..GOSH, I NEVER DREAMED MARTHA FELT THAT WAY!

THE BANDAGES ARE REMOVED...

HMM... TAKE A LOOK AT YOURSELF IN THIS MIRROR, SON!

G..GEE DR. GRAVES I..I'M SO NERVOUS I KIN HARDLY LOOK!

MARTHA!...YOUR DAD! HE'S DONE IT...I..I'M NOT SCARRED ANYMORE!

G..GOLLY, I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY, OR HOW TO THANK YOU!

DON'T TRY, KAYO! JUST SEEING YOU THIS WAY MAKES ME HAPPY!

WEEKS LATER...

ARE YOU SURE YOU WON'T CHANGE YOUR MIND AND STAY, KAYO?

NO, DOCTOR GRAVES! I JUST GOTTA GO BACK TO MY FRIENDS! G'BYE 'N THANKS AGAIN!

MARTHA!...MY POOR LITTLE GIRL!...I DIDN'T KNOW YOU CARED FOR KAYO SO MUCH!

I DO, MOTHER! I DO (SOB) AND NOW I'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN! (SOB)

WHILE KAYO AWAITS HIS
TRAIN AT THE STATION....

GOLLY... I KIN HARDLY WAIT
UNTIL I SEE CONNIE AGAIN..
SAY, WHAT'S THIS?



IT'S CONNIE...
ENGAGED TO BE
MARRIED.

SOCIETY NOTE
**ENGAGEMENT
REPORTED**



I... I DON'T SUPPOSE I RILLY
SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED
HER TO WAIT FER ME, AFTER
I RAN OUT ON HER.



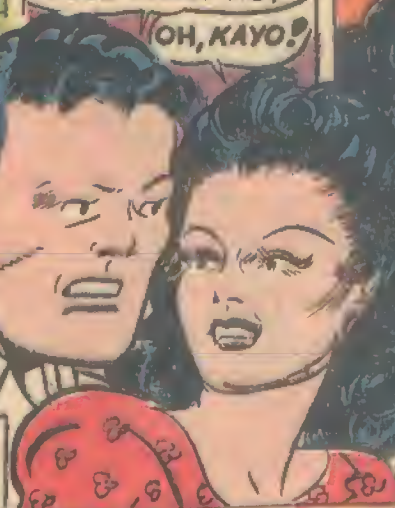
KAYO RETURNS TO THE
GRAVES' HOME....
KAYO: YOU'VE COME BACK?

YES, MARTHA, I'VE DECIDED
TO STAY AFTER
ALL.



MARTHA, YOU'RE ONE
OF THE SWELLEST
GIRLS I EVER KNEW!..
I... I WONDER, W. WOULD
YOUSE MARRY ME?

OH, KAYO!



LET'S NOT WASTE TIME.
WE'LL GO RIGHT DOWN 'N
GET THE
LICENSE!



KAYO AND MARTHA ARRIVE AT
THE TOWN SQUARE....
LOOK, JED, THAT MILLIONAIRE,
VAN POOLE, IS GONNA GET
HITCHED TO SOME DAME
CALLED CONNIE HODGES!



YEAH. JUST ONE
OF THOSE GOLD
DIGGERS!..SHE
SURE HOOKED
A FANCY FISH
THIS TIME!

YEAH, SHE'S
THE DAME
THAT
CHUCKED
WARD, PLENTY
SMART, ISN'T
SHE?



LOOK, MISTER, A GENTLEMAN SHOULDN'T MAKE SUCH REMARKS!... NOW YOU APOLOGIZE OR ELSE -

A WISE GUY, EH? OR ELSE WHAT?

YOU PICKED ON THE WRONG GUY TO GET TOUGH WITH! I'LL SHOW YOU... GOF!

ALL RIGHT!... I'LL TEACH YOUSE TO SLANDER A LADY'S NAME!

POW

NEXT TIME, YOUSE'LL DO LESS TALKIN' - OUT LOUD, ANYWAY!

Ow...

ER... KAYO, LET'S NOT GET THE LICENSE TODAY! I... UH... HAVE A HEADACHE. LET'S GO HOME!

NEXT DAY...

KAYO! OH KAYO!

HELLO, KAYO! REMEMBER ME?

CONNIE! LEW!

HOW DID YOUSE KNOW I WUZ HERE

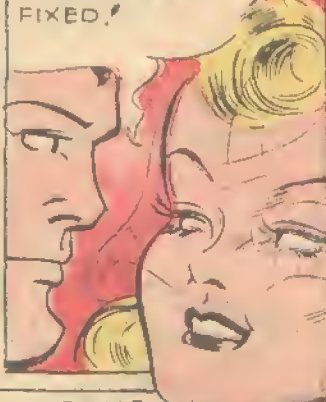
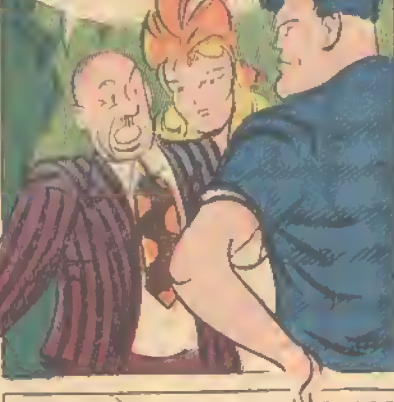
WE GOT A WIRE SIGNED "MARTHA" AND FLEW RIGHT DOWN HERE!... OH, I'M SO GLAD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, DARLING!

BUT YOU'RE ENGAGED TO BE MARRIED, CONNIE, I CAN'T...

LISTEN, YA SAP! IT WAS ME WHO FORCED HER TO DO IT. DON'T YOU READ THE PAPERS? YOU WERE GIVEN UP FOR DEAD.

THEY FOUND YER JACKET UNDER A TRAIN. CONNIE'S HEART NEARLY BROKE. I TALKED HER INTO BECOMIN' ENGAGED TO VAN POOLE TO MAKE HER TRY'N FORGET!

YES, DARLING...AND I STILL DON'T THINK I WOULD HAVE GONE THROUGH WITH IT. OH, KAYO. GRACIOUS! I JUST NOTICED YOUR FACE. IT'S FIXED.



YES!.. DOCTOR GRAVES DID IT. MARTHAS HER DAUGHTER. WE WERE JUST ABOUT TO BE MARRIED, 'N I GUESS, 'HMM...' SHE CHANGED. I'D LIKE HER MIND.

AS ONE WOMAN TO ANOTHER, THANK YOU SO MUCH! I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU GAVE UP KAYO.

YES, I KNEW HE ALWAYS LOVED YOU AND I WANT KAYO TO BE HAPPY!

BLESS YOUSE, MARTHAS! YOU'RE THE FINEST GAL A FELLOW COULD ASK FOR!

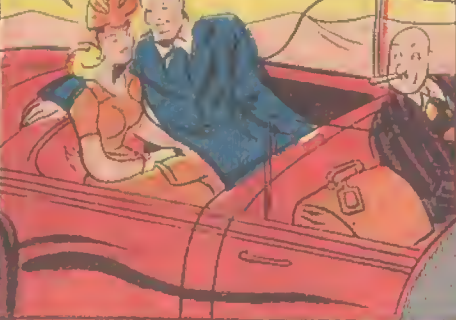
NO, I'M NOT, KAYO. YOU'VE GOT THE FINEST! GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK TO BOTH OF YOU!



G'BYE DOCTOR AND MRS. GRAVES!

GEE, CONNIE, I DON'T CARE ANYTHING ABOUT BOXING NOW THAT I'VE GOT YOU! OH, BUT I DO, KAYO!

I WANT YOU TO BECOME THE WORLD'S CHAMP AGAIN..RESTORE YOUR CONFIDENCE IN YOURSELF. THEN WE'LL TALK ABOUT LOVE AND MARRIAGE!



AND SO, WITH CONNIE'S ENCOURAGEMENT, KAYO WARD STARTS THE LONG, UPHILL TREK ALONG THE COMEBACK TRAIL.

OAKLAND

DENVER

ST PAUL

NEW YORK

PHILADELPHIA

AND THEN, AT LAST, KAYO FINDS HIMSELF BACK IN BIG TIME AS HE SIGNS FOR HIS FIRST BIG BOUT...



WELL, KID, WE'RE IN. THIS GUY MAC BARE IS A BETTER CLOWN THAN HE IS A FIGHTER!



I DON'T CARE WHO HE IS! I FEEL LIKE I CAN LICK ANYBODY!

CAN KAYO WARD SUCCEED IN DOING WHAT NO OTHER CHAMP HAS EVER DONE... REGAIN HIS THRONE? FOLLOW THE ADVENTURES OF KAYO WARD IN EVERY ISSUE OF **PEP COMICS!**



BENTLEY

SCOTLAND YARD



IN THE MANSION OF SIR LINSLEY, EARL OF KENT, A HORRIBLE TABLEAU IS ENACTED. THE ELDERLY EARL HAS CALLED HIS SON JAMES AND IS ABOUT TO TELL HIM SOMETHING, WHEN SUDDENLY, A SOLID SHEET OF FLAME ENVELOPES HIS BODY.



JAMES LINSLEY RUSHES
TO THE WATER
SPRINKLING VALVE



AND AS THE SPRINKLER IS TURNED ON, AN ALARM AUTOMATICALLY GOES OFF ATTRACTING THE REST OF THE HOUSEHOLD.



CHRISTINA, SWEETHEART
I'M SORRY YOU SAW
THIS!

OH JAMES
IT WAS
HORRIBLE!

THE MASTER!
HE'S DEAD!

I WARNED MY BROTHER
THAT THE FLAMES OF
PURGATORY WOULD SOME
DAY BE HIS RETRIBUTION
FOR HIS SINFUL WAYS! I
WARNED HIM! AND NOW
I WARN THE REST OF YOU!

I'M GOING TO GET
INSPECTOR
BENTLEY OF
SCOTLAND YARD
HE'LL GET
TO THE
BOT-
TOM
OF
THIS!

HELLO THERE
YOU SEEM TO
BE IN A BIT
OF A HURRY
BURSTING IN
HERE THIS
WAY.

I AM, INSPECTOR BENTLY! MY
FATHER, THE EARL OF WINDSOR,
HAS JUST BEEN MURDERED. AT
LEAST I THINK IT'S MURDER!

WHAT SIR LINSLEY
DEAD! I RECOG-
NIZE YOU NOW.
I'VE SEEN YOUR
PICTURE IN
THE NEWSPAPERS
A NUMBER
OF TIMES!

YES, EVERY
TIME I GOT
INTO A SCRAPE
BUT PLEASE
LET'S HURRY
I'LL TELL YOU
ABOUT IT ON
THE WAY!

HMM! I PRESUME THAT CAR
IS YOURS, JAMES.
AN EXPENSIVE
AMERICAN MODEL,
TOO!

YES, ONE
OF MY MANY
EXTRAVAGANCES
AND MY LAST!

AND SO
YOUR
FATHER
SIMPLY
BURST INTO
FLAMES
UNDER
YOUR VERY
EYES!

YES,
AT FIRST I
THOUGHT MY
UNCLE
PHILBERT WAS
MAD IN SAYING
WHAT HE DID!

YOU MEAN
ABOUT YOUR
SINS CATCHING
UP WITH YOU?

YES, BUT NOW
I GUESS I'M
NOT SURE OF
ANYTHING!
IT ALL HAPPEN-
ED SO UNEXPECT-
EDLY SO- SO
EERALLY!

IT'S THE MASTER, MR REEVES SHALL I TAKE HIS COAT ?

NO, JAMES, I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT MYSELF!

JAMES, OH I'M SO GLAD YOU CAME BACK!

I'VE BROUGHT INSPECTOR BENTLEY, DEAR

BRR! IT'S CHILLY OUT TONIGHT.

I'LL HAVE A FIRE IN A MOMENT, SIR.

YES, DO, REEVES!

ALLOW ME TO BRUSH YOUR CLOTHING, SIR

NO THANKS, REEVES. I'D LIKE TO TAKE A LOOK AT THE BODY AT ONCE.

I PUT SIR LINSLEY IN HIS ROOM, SIR. THIS WAY, SIR.

THE REST OF YOU WAIT DOWN HERE.

BRR-IT IS RATHER COLD I'LL WARM MYSELF UP A BIT

SUDDENLY!

HELP!

BENTLEY COMES RUSHING DOWN

JAMES! HE'S BURNING TO DEATH!

BENTLEY, RIPS A DRAPE OFF THE WALL AND-

STAND BACK EVERYBODY!

FLAMES! FLAMES OF PURGATORY! I WARNED HIM!

BENTLEY WRAPS THE DRAPE ABOUT JAMES' BODY TO SMOTHER THE FLAMES.



I HOPE I DIDN'T GET HERE TOO LATE!

JAMES! JAMES! DARLING HOW - HOW ARE YOU?



I'M ALL RIGHT CHRISTINA JUST A LITTLE SHAKEN UP, THAT'S ALL!

PERHAPS NOW YOU DON'T THINK I'M A CACKLING OLD FOOL. I TELL YOU YOU'RE ALL DOOMED. YOU HAVE WOODED THE DEVIL AND NOW YOU MUST PAY HIS PRICE HEH-HEH-HEH!



YOU MISERABLE GHOUL! YOU'RE THE ONE THAT'S BEHIND ALL THIS - I'LL...



GET AWAY. GET AWAY FROM ME!

HERE! STOP THAT! I'LL DO ALL THE ACCUSING AROUND HERE-AND ALL THE ARRESTING, TOO!

FORGIVE ME! MY MASTER'S DEATH - IT - IT'S UPSET ME SO!



NOW EVERYBODY REMAIN HERE. I'M GOING TO HAVE A LOOK ABOUT AND SEE WHAT I CAN FIND



BENTLEY SEARCHES THROUGH ALL THE ROOMS UNTIL AT LAST HE FINDS....



HMM--INTERESTING--VERY INTERESTING.

SEE HERE, CHRISTINA I DON'T THINK IT'S SAFE FOR YOU TO STAY HERE TONIGHT. I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU HOME.



IF YOU THINK IT BEST DEAR, I'LL GO!

